GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:801 ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012 LIFTING OF PDS QUOTA Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Sharma Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States have failed to lift the full quota of foodgrains allotted to them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the allocation and off-take of foodgrains during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Union Government had taken up the issue with the concerned States;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the States thereto;
- (e) whether some of the said States have requested the Union Government for additional allocation for Below Poverty Line families; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a) & (b): The overall offtake against normal allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been 92.1% during April to June, 2012. In the case of additional allocations for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families during 2011-12, the offtake has been 85%. Lower offtake in some States is mainly in the additional allocations, attributable to State's inability to absorb additional allocations due to further State subsidization to the targeted beneficiaries, short placements of stocks at some Food Corporation of India (FCI) depots due to movement bottlenecks resulting from inadequate placement of rail rakes. State-wise details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains (normal and additional allocations) for the last three years is at Annex I & II.
- (c) & (d): The Government has been persuading States/UTs who have not lifted their entire quota to do so through periodical meetings and communications at various levels with them. As a result the offtake under normal TPDS has increased from 89.1% to 92.1% from 2009-10 to 2012-13 (upto June, 2012).
- (e) & (f): States have been requesting to allocate additional foodgrains in view of the increased population. Considering the availability of surplus stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the demands received from the States, the Government has made adhoc additional allocation of 50 lakh tons of foodgrains in July, 2012 for distribution to additional BPL families upto March 2013. Another 15.80 lakh tons of foodgrains have been allocated to the additional BPL and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the poorest/ backward districts during the current year so far.